

April 6, 2005

Dear Housing/Community Development Program Supporter:

I am writing to thank all of you who were able to attend the first hearing on our Federal FY2005 HUD Action Plan, held in March, or who submitted written testimony as part of the citizen participation process. I invite you to attend a second hearing to provide your comments, questions and suggestions based upon your review of our draft. A copy of the legal notice with the details of the hearing is enclosed.

Our Action Plan describes next year's (Federal FY2005/City FY2006) use of HUD funding under formula grant programs: Community Development Block Grant **CDBG**; Home Investment Partnership Program **HOME**, including American Dream Downpayment Initiative **ADDI**, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS **HOPWA**, and Emergency Shelter Grant **ESG**.

I especially want to encourage you to attend this second hearing, or if you can't attend, to take the time to send us your feedback by mail, or email. It is critical this year that you speak for the record about how important our HUD funded programs are to your organization, neighborhood, or to you personally. Although HUD has posted the funding allocations for next year, I'm sure you know that Federal budget proposals for the CDBG program for the following year places that program in some jeopardy. Advocates are working extremely hard to preserve this funding source, and have made progress. The national efforts to preserve the CDBG program have demonstrated that active citizen participation on all levels continues to play an important role in ensuring the availability of resources for our core housing and community development programs.

The Action Plan hearing will be held on **Thursday, April 28, 2005 Winter Chambers, (First Floor) 26 Court Street, Boston, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30.p.m.** If you are interested in participating and you need interpreter services (including ASL), please let us know at least 10 days in advance and we will try to accommodate you. On behalf of the City of Boston, I would like to thank you for your interest and hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to participate in the City's Action Plan process.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Golar Richie
Chief of Housing and Director

Enclosure



LEGAL NOTICE

April 11, 2005

CITY OF BOSTON

DEPT. OF NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Public Hearing and Request for Comments

Action Plan Hearing Date

**Thursday, April 28, 2005
Winter Chambers, (First Floor)
26 Court Street, Boston, MA
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

In accordance with the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105(b), the City of Boston hereby announces a public hearing to accept comments on the Federal FY2005/City of Boston FY2006 (7/1/2005-6/30/2006) draft Action Plan. The Action Plan is the document that is submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and serves as the City's application for, and planned use of, HUD housing and community development funds to address needs and priorities identified in Boston's Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan is a planning document that identifies the City's general housing and community development needs and priorities over a three to five year period, and broadly describes the actions the City plans to take to address those needs.

The City of Boston's current HUD approved 4-year Consolidated Plan covers the period of July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2007. This year's Action Plan is the third of four plans required under the City's approved Consolidated Plan and covers the planned use of the following HUD resources:

- **Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)**
- **HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), including the American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI)**
- **Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESG)**
- **Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA)**

In order to provide an opportunity for citizen participation in the proposed Federal FY2005 Action Plan, the City has scheduled a public hearing to solicit citizens' comments on the draft Action Plan. Interpreter services will be available (English-Spanish) during the hearing. If anyone interested in presenting testimony needs interpreter services in any language, including ASL, please contact Laura Younger at **617.635.0333** at least ten days prior to the hearing date. Every effort will be made to accommodate your request.

The draft FY2005 Action Plan is available for a 30-day comment period that will close on **5/09/05**. Copies can be obtained at DND's Policy Development and Research Division located at 26 Court St. 8th floor and on the DND [web site](http://www.cityofboston.gov/dnd/): <http://www.cityofboston.gov/dnd/>. Comments may be submitted at any time during this process up to the closing date (5/09/05) and should be sent to the following address:

**Federal FY2005 Action Plan
Policy Development & Research Division
Department of Neighborhood Development
26 Court St., 8th floor, Boston, MA 02108
E-mail comments to: actionplan.dnd@cityofboston.gov.**

For more information on this hearing, or on the Consolidated Plan and Action Plan, please call Robert Gehret, Deputy Director, Policy Development & Research Division/DND at **(617) 635-0242**.

HUD SuperNOFA. *Please be advised that the notice for HUD's annual funding competition (SuperNOFA) has been issued with requirement for applicants to obtain certification that proposed projects are consistent with the City's Consolidated Plan. Certification requests are due to the City of Boston 30-days prior to the HUD application due date. Contact Laura E. Younger at **617.635.0333** for more information about the City's certification process. The application for City certification is available on the DND web site.*

Charlotte Golar Richie
Chief of Housing and Director
Department of Neighborhood Development